

abolitionist William Wilberforce, and may we each of us in this Chamber always be inspired by his example and may we always aspire to those words he most assuredly heard 168 years ago: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida) at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Let the peoples praise You, O God. Let all the peoples praise You. O God be gracious and bless this Chamber of the House of Representatives. Let Your face shed its light upon us. Make Your ways known here and across the Earth so all nations learn of Your saving help. Let the peoples praise You, O God. Let all the peoples praise You.

Let America be glad and exalt, for You rule the world with justice. With fairness You rule all peoples. You guide all the nations on Earth. Let the peoples praise You, O God. Let all the peoples praise You.

Our land has yielded plenty, for God our God has blessed us. May You, O God make us a blessing to others till the end of the Earth revere You. Let the peoples praise You, O God. Let all the peoples praise You. Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. TURNER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### TIME TO ESTABLISH A WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL REGARDING SADDAM HUSSEIN'S CRIMES

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, last week Saddam Hussein ordered Iraqi units to fire upon U.S. surveillance aircraft enforcing the United Nations no-fly zone protecting the Kurdish people of Iraq. It is clear from this record that Saddam Hussein is becoming an increasing security threat to the international system.

Based on the achievements of the U.N. war crimes tribunal with the arrest of Slobodan Milosovic, we have a clear record of unilateral and multilateral action to support the rule of law and international human rights.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to look for a U.N. war crimes tribunal on Iraq, to look at Iraq's violation of the peace with regard to its invasion of Iran, Saddam Hussein's ordering the execution of 5,000 civilians in Halabja, and its invasion of Kuwait.

Now is the time, as we review sanctions and our policy toward Iraq, to start a multilateral effort to establish a U.N. war crimes tribunal.

#### ST. LOUIS ALDERMAN'S DECISION

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, politicians have always been known for gas, but a St. Louis alderman had to make an important decision. In the midst of a heated debate, she had to urinate. Now if that is not enough to threaten a filibuster, the Member said, and I quote, "Rather than leave the Chamber, my staff surrounded me with blankets," and Mr. Speaker, the rest is history. The woman did void.

Unbelievable. What is next? Chamber port-a-potties? How about window urinals? Beam me up. I yield back the fact that when taxpayers say politics stink they are not talking about the Roto-Rooter man.

#### CALIFORNIA NEEDS BALANCED, LONG-TERM ENERGY PLAN

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, Americans deserve to know when they need electricity that a steady supply will be ready and available. Unfortunately, California's consumers and business cannot count on steady electricity this summer.

That is not right. It is time to place the peoples' quality of life and family

budgets before politics. California needs to solve its electricity crisis with a balanced, long-term plan that uses technology to provide clean, reliable electricity for all the families in the Golden State.

Leaders in California have a responsibility to make sure that electricity is plentiful and affordable. Californians are suffering because their State government increased government regulations of the energy industry.

Today politicians in California are demanding additional government regulations as a pathway to relief from consequences of their earlier government regulations. This is the wrong approach; and by avoiding the real source of the problem, it can only prolong the electricity crisis.

Mr. Speaker, this problem took years to develop, and it will not be fixed overnight. California needs to solve its electricity shortage with a broad and balanced plan that taps a variety of sources to produce a sufficient supply of electricity.

#### SUPPORTING THE GANSKE-DINGELL-NORWOOD-BERRY PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 2563, the Ganske-Dingell-Norwood-Berry Patients' Bill of Rights, and to urge its passage.

Patients in my district and throughout the country have been waiting far too long for protection against HMO abuses; but they want real reform, not a sugar pill that may go down well with the managed care industry but provides no relief for patients.

H.R. 2563 is the only bill that would provide real relief, and the Republican leadership ought to schedule it for a vote. Just look at who supports it and who rejects the Fletcher placebo.

The International Association of Firefighters supports it, because it provides real protection to local firefighters, unlike the Fletcher bill. The Paralyzed Veterans of America believes H.R. 2563 has the strongest provisions in numerous areas critical to high-quality health care for people with disabilities. The League of Women Voters supports the Ganske-Dingell bill because it provides strong and needed protections, while the Fletcher bill "establishes an appeals process that will put the rights of health plans ahead of patients"; also, the American Nurses Association, the American College of Obstetricians.

We should listen to those groups. We should listen to the patients. We should pass an effective and affordable Patients' Bill of Rights, H.R. 2563, now.